GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3555
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2002
HEALTH FOR ALL
C. SREENIVAASAN

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is still lagging behind in providing health services to all as compared to other developed countries; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. Health is a state subject. However, achieving an acceptable standard of good health amongst the general population of the country continues to be the main objective of the Government`s health policy. For this, the National Health Policy, 2002 recently announced by the Government plans to increase the public health sector expenditure from the present 0.9 percent of GDP to 2 percent of GDP by 2010. Central Government also helps the State Governments in the provision of health care services through implementation of National Health Programmes for control of major diseases like Malaria, TB, Blindness, Leprosy and AIDS. Health care infrastructure in many States is being strengthened with external assistance to improve the health care services for the people in the rural areas.